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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
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12 September 1965

DOS review completed

ARMY review(s) completed.

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

The India-Pakistan Situation
(Report #31 - As of 6:00 A.M. EDT)

1. Reports on the fighting continue to be scanty with each side issuing conflicting claims of successes. The heaviest fighting on 11 September apparently took place in the Sialkot sector, where an Indian column is continuing to push into Pakistan from the direction of Jammu. Both sides are evidently employing considerable quantities of armor in this battle.

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The civilian population has evacuated the town, which suffered considerable damage as the result of Indian bombing in the center of the city. Pakistani civilians are also fleeing the fighting in the Lahore area, where a curfew was imposed last night to facilitate searches for Indian infiltrators.

2. U Thant has now left Pakistan to begin discussions with the Indians. He has, however, requested that aircraft be available for a possible return to Karachi on 14 September. Indian Prime Minister Shastri has been quoted as saying that his government would be happy if Thant's mission brought peace. An Indian spokesman has again reiterated that India would make peace if Pakistani forces withdrew from Kashmir and the UN Security Council guaranteed that "these acts of aggression" were not repeated.

3. Indian President Radhakrishnan has told Ambassador Bowles that India is prepared to say at the outset of the talks with Thant that it fully accepts the Security Council resolution to pull back its troops all along the line if Pakistan pulls back its forces, including the infiltrators in Kashmir. The President noted that many of these infiltrators had apparently left

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Indian Kashmir in the past several days, and added that India was willing to discuss some adjustment of the 1949 Kashmir cease-fire line. There was no indication that India was willing to reopen the question of the status of Kashmir itself, however. Radhakrishnan claimed that casualties on both sides had been extremely heavy in the fighting thus far.

4. A Pakistani spokesman has announced that Pakistan presented U Thant with a three-point program for ending the hostilities. This program contains no surprises and is certain to be rejected by India. It calls for a cease-fire and withdrawal of opposing forces, establishment of a UN force to assure security in Kashmir, and a plebiscite in Kashmir within three months.

5. Early this morning the Pakistani radio announced that Pakistan will shortly ask for material help from all countries "whether or not they are members of the United Nations." Earlier President Ayub stated in a speech that India's "aggression" had provided Pakistan with "an opportunity to know its friends." A high-level Turkish foreign ministry official, commenting on Pakistan's appeal for aid, has told American Embassy officials that both Turkey and Iran strongly support U Thant's efforts to find a solution, but if he were not successful they believe it the duty of the Security Council to take action similar to that taken to repel aggression in Korea. The Turkish foreign minister is expected in Rawalpindi soon to discuss the aid question, the Pakistan radio reports.

6. Soviet Premier Kosygin has sent identical letters to India and Pakistan again strongly urging a cease-fire. In a speech yesterday he offered strong Soviet support for the UN resolution calling for an end to the fighting. Soviet diplomats in several capitals have privately commented to American officials that Soviet and US interests in the subcontinent are identical at the present moment. In New Delhi, Indian spokesmen reported that Shastri has told Kosygin that India would not immediately call on the Soviet Union to use its good offices, as offered by the Soviet Premier on 4 September.

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8. There have been no further reports of communal outbreaks in either India or Pakistan. However, Indian authorities are reportedly concerned about excessive zeal being displayed by volunteers who have taken civil defense management into their own hands and are over-interpreting instructions. Nervousness continues among Delhi Muslims, some of whom are leaving the Indian capital. Members of the Indian Muslim Congress Party have protested to leading government officials regarding harassment of Muslims by self-appointed "vigilantes" searching for parachute-dropped Pakistani infiltrators.

9. Pakistani military officials have warned the head of the US MAAG mission to cease all inquiries concerning Pakistani military information or intelligence. This effectively closes the door on all informal US contacts at Pakistani military headquarters and is another reflection of Pakistani unhappiness over the US position in the present conflict.

10. India has proposed to Pakistan an exchange of diplomatic personnel of the two countries, the Pakistani radio reports. No moves in this direction have yet been taken, however.

11. An Indian spokesman now states that the Pakistani "paratroopers" reportedly dropped into the Assam area on 10 September were in fact sightings of anti-aircraft bursts seen against the night sky. This disclosure provides a good indication of the quality of many of the claims and counterclaims issuing from the two sides.

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13. The Pakistani radio reports that the government has issued an order providing for the price control and rationing of 52 "essential commodities."

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